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DE RUEHAK #2922 1431445 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 231445Z MAY 06 FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5783 INFO RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 7212 RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 4110 RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 5285 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0253 RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0208 RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 0209 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 3011 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0406 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 5425 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0201 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0234 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5236 RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 6539 RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY 0064 RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 1235 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0926 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0093 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA/DSCA// PRIORITY RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5// PRIORITY RHMFIUU/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU PRIORITY RHMFIUU/425ABS IZMIR TU//CC// PRIORITY RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY

UNCLAS ANKARA 002922

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PARM PREL TU
SUBJECT: PSI: TURKISH PRESS STATEMENT ON PSI EXERCISE
ANATOLIAN SUN 06

11. The Turkish MFA released an announcement on May 22, stating that the PSI exercise "Anatolian Sun" is not directed at any one country but an attempt to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. An informal Embassy translation is at para 12. (Comment: The MFA statement is an apparent reaction to the May 22 New York Times article on the exercise asserting it targets Iran among others. End comment.)

12. Begin text of MFA announcement:

"Our country will host an air-ground-maritime exercise called "Anatolian Sun- 2006" on May 24-26 within the framework of the Proliferation Security Initiative - PSI. Implementation of the exercise, which does not target any country, includes the use of firearms but aims at strengthening coordination between relevant authorities with third countries for non-proliferation of WMD, WMD delivery systems and other related materials. The decision to conduct the exercise was in 2005.

As it is known PSI is established in May 2003 in order to cover the deficiencies of existing international agreements, arms control regimes and national export control systems to prevent proliferation of WMD, WMD delivery systems and other related materials. Turkey announced its support to the Initiative in December 2003.

UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted unanimously during the Council's meeting of April 28, 2004, provides the legal basis in international law for the PSI.

[&]quot;Anatolian Sun 2006" exercise will take place in 2 stages.

Participants in the desktop stage of the exercise will join through their embassies in Ankara or through computer connections from their capitals. USA, France, and Portugal will participate in the second stage to be conducted in Antalya, and 31 countries will join as observers. The exercise will be open to press and press members will be able to watch.

Activities related to the exercise, which were launched almost one year ago, have been carried out by about 20 state institutions under coordination of Prime Ministry."

End text.

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